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<div align="right">Docket No.: 5486-0196PUS1
(PATENT)</div>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Christopher HAHN

Application No.: 10/700,995	Confirmation No.: 5612
Filed: November 4, 2003	Art Unit: 2193
For: CATEGORY PARTITIONING MARKUP LANGUAGE AND TOOLS	Examiner: T. A. Vu

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated December 12, 2007, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page **Error! Bookmark not defined.** of this paper.

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims have been amended as follows:

1.-30. (Canceled)

31.   (New) A method of processing testing data for testing a software module, the method comprising:

(a)   extracting parameter value combinations from a data file formatted with a markup language, wherein the markup language implements an extensible markup representation of a table, the table representation comprising:

(i)   a first section that includes a set of testing parameters listed in a parameter order;

(ii)   a second section that includes a first set of parameter values listed in an order such that each value is positioned in the same order as the corresponding parameter is listed in the parameter order; and

(iii)   a third section that includes a second set of parameter values listed an order such that each value is positioned in the same order as the corresponding parameter is listed in the parameter order; wherein the second section parameter order and the third section parameter order represent the order of the parameter associated with a corresponding test case;

(b)   generating a first test case based on the extracted parameter value combinations in the order represented by the first, second, or third section of the table representation;

(c)   transmitting the first test case to a software module test engine;

(d)   generating a first test result based on the first test case;

(e)   integrating the first test result into corresponding section of the table representation of the data file;

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(f)   repeating steps (b)-(e) for a second test case in order to allow a test developer to create a set of related test cases based on an equivalence class model and to further test the software module in a rapid manner.

32.   (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the table representation comprises a plurality of test cases and each test case comprises a set of parameter value combinations.

33.   (New) The method of claim 32, wherein step (a) comprises extracting the plurality of test cases from the data file.

34.   (New) The method of claim 32, further including creating an object from a test case parameter value combination.

35.   (New) The method of claim 31, further including changing the format of the parameter value combinations before step (b).

36.   (New) The method of claim 31, further including:

(g)   receiving the table representation at a spreadsheet application; and

(h)   converting the table representation to the data file with a spreadsheet plug-in.

37.   (New) The method of claim 31, further including validating the parameter value combinations by comparing the parameter value combinations to a set of rules.

38.   (New) The method of claim 37, wherein parameter value combinations are validated on demand prior to step (b).

39.   (New) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer executable program for testing a software module, the computer program when executed causes a computer system to execute steps of:

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     (a)   extracting parameter value combinations from a data file formatted with a markup language, wherein the markup language implements an extensible markup representation of a table, the table representation comprising:

          (i)   a first section that includes a set of testing parameters listed in a parameter order;

          (ii)   a second section that includes a first set of parameter values listed in an order such that each value is positioned in the same order as the corresponding parameter is listed in the parameter order; and

          (iii)   a third section that includes a second set of parameter values listed an order such that each value is positioned in the same order as the corresponding parameter is listed in the parameter order; wherein the second section parameter order and the third section parameter order represent the order of the parameter associated with a corresponding test case;

     (b)   generating a first test case based on the extracted parameter value combinations in the order represented by the first, second, or third section of the table representation;

     (c)   transmitting the first test case to a software module test engine;

     (d)   generating a first test result based on the first test case;

     (e)   integrating the first test result into corresponding section of the table representation of the data file;

     (f)   repeating steps (b)-(e) for a second test case in order to allow a test developer to create a set of related test cases based on an equivalence class model and to further test the software module in a rapid manner.

40.   (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 39, wherein the table representation comprises a plurality of test cases and each test case comprises a set of parameter value combinations.

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41.   (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 40, wherein step (a) comprises extracting the plurality of test cases from the data file.

42.   (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 40, further including creating an object from a test case parameter value combination.

43.   (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 39, further including changing the format of the parameter value combinations before step (b).

44.   (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 39, further including:

(g)   receiving the table representation at a spreadsheet application; and

(h)   converting the table representation to the data file with a spreadsheet plug-in.

45.   (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 39, further including validating the parameter value combinations by comparing the parameter value combinations to a set of rules.

46.   (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 45, wherein parameter value combinations are validated on demand prior to step (b).

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